

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

UNITED DISTRICTS OF SOUTH WEST CHESHIREFOR THE YEAR 1943

To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee
for the United Districts of South-West Cheshire.

Gentlemen,

In the continued absence of Dr. Birchall on active service, I again have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the Rural Districts of Chester and Tarvin for the year ending 31st December 1943.

As in previous years, for reasons of security, figures of population have been omitted from the published report in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health.

The Vital Statistics relating to the fourth full year of war show a highly satisfactory state of affairs in the Districts.

The incidence of Infectious Disease remains low, and there has been no increase in the notifications of Tuberculosis.

Maternal mortality and Infant mortality remain at satisfactory low rates.

Steady progress has been maintained in the campaign for Immunisation of children against Diphtheria.

No further schemes of Evacuation to the District were carried out during the year, and the number of evacuees in the District has steadily decreased.

I would put on record my appreciation and thanks for the work of my staff during the past year and their continued loyalty.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

M.E. RUSSELL,
(M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.)

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE COMBINED DISTRICTS

Area.....106,270 acres

For Birth and Death Rates vide respective districts.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1943 was 16.5 per 1,000 population, compared with 15.8 the figure for 1942.

The Death Rate was 12.1 per 1,000 population, the rate for 1942 was 11.6.

The Infant Mortality Rate, i.e. Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births was 49; the rate for 1942 was also 49.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The scheme for the voluntary immunisation of all children resident in the Chester and Tarvin Rural Districts between the ages of 1 and 15 years has continued to operate during the year.

The scheme has received the wholehearted co-operation of private doctors and has been appreciated by the majority of parents.

During the year 1943, the following numbers of children were immunised:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Under 5 years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u>	<u>Unknown age</u>
Chester R.D.	173	128	43	2
Tarvin R.D.	289	176	91	22

Since January 1939 a grand total of 1554 children have been immunised in the Chester Rural District, and a grand total of 2647 in the Tarvin Rural District.

It is again necessary to draw attention to the fact that in a small percentage of cases, the immunisation is apparently ineffective in so far as a small percentage of children subsequently suffer from Diphtheria in a modified and milder form.

The Serum recommended for use is A.P.T. (Alum Precipated Toxoid) in 2 injections with a minimum of 2 weeks between each injection.

1st injection..... 0.2 c.c.
2nd injection..... 0.5 c.c.

Parents of Children in the following Parishes took advantage of the Scheme during the year under review:-

Chester Rural District

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Ages</u>		<u>Unknown age</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Under five</u>	<u>Over five</u>		
Barrow	4	3	-	7
Chorlton-by-Backford	2	1	-	3
Christleton	7	5	-	12
Dodleston	3	3	-	6
Eccleston	1	-	-	1
Elton	5	-	-	5
Great Boughton	19	2	-	21
Great Saughall	6	8	-	14
Guilden Sutton	2	-	-	2
Hoole Village	1	-	-	1
Huntington	15	2	-	17
Ledsham	1	3	-	4
Little Saughall	2	-	-	2
Little Stanney	1	-	-	1
Littleton	1	1	-	2
Mickle Trafford	1	-	1	2
Mollington	4	3	-	7
Moston	1	-	-	1
Picton	1	-	-	1
Pulford	4	1	-	5
Rowton	5	-	-	5
Saighton	1	1	-	2
Thornton-le-Moors	3	1	-	4
Upton	38	8	1	47
Wervin	-	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	128	43	2	173
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION)

Tarvin Rural District

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Ages</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Under five</u>	<u>5 - 15</u>	<u>Unknown age</u>	
Agden	1	-	-	1
Aldersey	-	-	-	-
Ashton	5	4	-	9
Barton	-	-	-	-
Beeston	2	1	-	3
Bickley	1	-	2	3
Bradley	-	-	-	-
Broxton	6	1	7	14
Burwardsley	3	2	-	5
Carden	3	-	-	3
Chorlton	-	-	-	-
Chowley	2	-	-	2
Churton-by-Aldford	2	-	-	2
Churton-by-Farndon	1	-	-	1
Clotton Hoofield	3	-	-	3
Clutton	3	1	-	4
Coddington	1	-	-	1
Crewe-by-Farndon	-	-	-	-
Cuddington	8	4	-	12
Duckington	-	-	-	-
Duddon	1	1	-	2
Edge	-	-	1	1
Farndon	17	12	6	35
Foulk Stapleford	-	-	-	-
Golbourne Bellow	-	-	-	-
Hampton	1	3	1	5
Handley	-	-	-	-
Harthill	1	-	-	1
Hatton	-	-	-	-
Horton-by-Malpas	-	-	-	-
Kelsall	16	6	-	22
Malpas	35	16	5	56
Mouldsworth	1	-	1	2
Newton-by-Tattenhall	3	4	-	7
Oldcastle	3	-	-	3
Overton	-	-	-	-
Pryors Hayes	-	-	-	-
Shocklach Church	2	9	-	11
Shocklach Oviatt	-	-	-	-
Tarvin	25	7	-	32
Tattenhall	25	15	-	40
Tilston	2	-	-	2
Tilstone Fearnall	-	-	-	-
Tiverton	1	1	-	2
Tushingham	-	-	-	-
Waverton	3	4	-	7
	<u>177</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>291</u>

CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area.....43,677 acres

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area, and the extension of unemployment.

The chief industry of the District is Dairy Farming.

Unemployment is not pronounced in the District, as a matter of fact the reverse is the case as farmers are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain labour on the land; most of their labour is now being absorbed by factories in the adjoining areas.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1943

Births:-

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	180	162	342
Illegitimate	12	6	18

Birth-rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 18.86

Still Births:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births 16.4

Still birth-rate per 1,000 civilian population .31

Deaths:-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
106	96	202

Death rate per 1,000 population 10.6

A corrected death-rate is not given because owing to movements of population in war-time the use of a comparability factor would not give a representative figure.

Deaths (due to maternal causes):-

Puerperal Sepsis.....	Nil
Other maternal causes.....	1
Total	<u>1</u>

Deaths of infants under one year of age:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	9	6	15
Illegitimate	1	2	3

Infant mortality rate, i.e. per 1,000 live births 50.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....	22
Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough.....	3
Deaths from Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age.....	0

Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year:-

Heart Disease.....	32 Males	31 Females
Cancer.....	12 "	10 "

Heart Disease deaths are: 63 in 1943 55 in 1942
Cancer deaths are: 3 less than in 1942.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers.....	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever.....	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	1	2
Measles.....	-	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-
Influenza.....	1	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system.....	5	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis.....	-	-
Syphilitic diseases.....	1	1
Acute infectious encephalitis.....	-	-
Cancer of all sites.....	12	10
Diabetes.....	-	1
Intra cranial vascular lesions.....	11	10
Heart disease.....	32	31
Other diseases of circulatory system.....	3	2
Bronchitis.....	8	6
Pneumonia.....	6	1
Other respiratory diseases.....	2	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.....	-	-
Diarrhoea under 2 years.....	-	-
Appendicitis.....	-	2
Other digestive disorders.....	4	3
Nephritis.....	2	1
Peurperal and post-abortion sepsis.....	-	-
Other maternal causes.....	-	1
Premature birth.....	-	3
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infant diseases.....	3	1
Suicide.....	1	1
Road traffic accidents.....	-	-
Other violent causes.....	2	4
All other Causes.....	12	11
TOTAL - ALL CAUSES:	<u>106</u>	<u>96</u>

General Provision of Health Services

(a) Laboratory facilities.

The services of the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary, are utilised for chemical and bacteriological examinations.

(b) Ambulance facilities.

Infectious diseases are removed to Clatterbridge Isolation Hospital under the control of the Wirral Joint Hospital Board, by the Hospital Ambulance.

Accident and sick cases are dealt with by the Chester City Ambulances.

Other cases of sickness are removed to the County General Hospital, Clatterbridge, by ambulance attached to the Hospital.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

Home Nursing in the Rural District is undertaken at present in all cases by arrangement with the Cheshire County Nursing Association. Negotiations are complete and have secured a comprehensive scheme of home nursing throughout the District.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics, including Clinics solely for diagnosis or consultation.

The County Council Clinics are available for residents in this area at:-

(a) Hoole - Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics.
Child Welfare Clinic, Ophthalmic and Dental Clinics.

(b) Chester - Orthopaedic and Tuberculosis.

(e) Hospitals - Public and Voluntary.

The County General Hospital at Clatterbridge is available for residents in the rural district.

Large voluntary and special hospitals are also accessible in Chester and Liverpool respectively.

Officers.

Medical Officer of Health. W.J. Birchall, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector,
Cleaving Superintendent,
and Meat Inspector. H.E. Stone, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., and
Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary
Inspector.
Liverpool University Certificate for
Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and Other
Foods.
Cambridge University Certificates.

Assistant Meat Inspector. S. Southern, A.M.S.I.A.,
Liverpool University Certificate
for Meat and Other Foods.

Clerk-Typist. Mrs. W. Brewer.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

WATER. The whole of the District comprising 50 Parishes has now a piped supply available, with the exception of the Parish of Claverton which is without any dwellings.

The undertakings supplying the district are the West Cheshire Water Board, the Chester Waterworks Company, the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, in addition to your own borehole at Plemstall.

Throughout the year the supply has been satisfactorily maintained. Periodic samples of water have been taken and submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis which have proved the various supplies to be of a satisfactory quality.

Arising out of the hardness of the water from the Council's borehole at Plemstall which causes furring up of the back boilers and feed pipes it was necessary to adopt a method of descaling by the use of a liquid under the trade name of "Scruffite". This liquid has proved to be a success but care has to be taken to see that the back boiler and feed pipes are thoroughly flushed through after the descaling has taken place, otherwise it is possible the action of the liquid on the metals used may have a deleterious effect. It is undoubtedly a fact that this "Scruffite" has proved to be a useful war time substitute for softening, but it is a somewhat expensive method, the operation having to be performed twice each year and occupying a lot of valuable time, so that taking all factors into consideration it is advisable that the question of softening the water at the source should be proceeded with on the cessation of hostilities.

The number of connections made to the Council's main during the year under review is **26**

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

LITTLETON. The Tarvin Road section of this scheme has now been made more use of, not by drainage conversions, but by connection of temporary camps on to it. Apparently owing to the very restricted use of this section from 1940 to 1943 when the Pumping Plant was made more use of, it acted at first very satisfactorily, but eventually a fault was discovered in the Ejector plant which was traced to a leaking valve and deficient strength of the control spring.

GREAT BOUGHTON. Post war schemes of sewerage are evident in the Piper's Ash area and the extension of the Tarvin Road area to couple up with the Littleton scheme.

UPTON. The whole of this Parish is sufficiently sewered to meet the present development but it is anticipated that any further extensive development will require an enlargement of the present sewerage system which is now taxed almost to capacity.

CHRISTLETON. Extension of the existing sewerage scheme is urgently required to satisfy the requirements of the Plough Lane and Brown Heath areas of this Parish.

ROWTON. The scheme for the sewerage of this Parish in conjunction with a portion of the Waverton Parish in the Tarvin Rural District is one which is in need of attention, and is further evidence of post war work.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE (Cont'd).

Other Parishes which require sewerage schemes are Barrow, Dunham Hill, Guilden Sutton, and Great and Little Saughall, together with Mollington. The Great and Little Saughall schemes are an old story dating back to the last war, but a temporary Sewage Works is to be put in hand to deal with the existing sewer in the Parish of Great Saughall to tide over the present difficulties till such time as the proper scheme can be put down. Dodleston sewerage must also be the subject of being made fully comprehensive.

Private sewerage schemes are provided in the Parishes of Eccleston, Saughton, Aldford, Eaton and Pulford. These schemes are not entirely comprehensive and should be made so.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. Steps have been taken to prevent the pollution of certain streams in the district, and the River Gowy has been cleansed by the Rivers Catchment Board. Certain lands have been extensively drained and water courses and ditches cleansed by the Tenant farmers by arrangement with the War Agricultural Committee.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

These two services are carried out by direct labour, and in one instance by Contract.

The periods of removal of household refuse are as follows from the following parishes:-

<u>FORTNIGHTLY</u>	<u>MONTHLY</u>
Great Boughton.	Barrow.
Upton and Bache.	Dunham Hill.
Christleton.	Elton.
	Great Saughall.
	Guilden Sutton.
	Hoole Village.
	Huntington.
	Lea-by-Backford.
	Rowton.
	Marlston-cum-Lache.
	Mickle Trafford.
	Bridge Trafford.
	Puddington.
	Stoke.
	Little Stanney (Strawberry area).

In addition, the Barracks at The Dale, The Military Hospital at Moston are scavenged twice each week, whilst the American Camp at Hoole Bank is scavenged once each week.

The parish of Saughton is scavenged once monthly by contract.

The refuse is deposited in Tips at Upton and Great Boughton, both of which are controlled.

During the year 96 Preliminary Notices requiring the provision of Dust Bins were served on Owners or Agents, and in all cases these notices were complied with.

You also decided as a war time measure to adopt Section 75(2) of the Public Health Act 1936 enabling you to supply bins to Owners or Agents owing to the difficulty being experienced in obtaining supplies.

SALVAGE. The arrangements in force during 1941 are still working satisfactorily and thanks are due to the W.V.S. for the very able assistance rendered to your Council by their efforts in developing a comprehensive system of Salvage Stewards and central collection dumps from which regular collections are made by the Van provided by you for the use of the members of the W.V.S.

During the year the following quantities have been disposed of:-

	T.	C.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper & Books	100.	13	657.	18.	0
Black Scrap	29.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	63.	7.	9
Flattened Tins	16.	11	12.	8.	2
Aluminium		1 $\frac{3}{4}$	3.	11.	10
Copper		- $\frac{1}{4}$		12.	0
Brass		10 $\frac{1}{4}$	9.	5.	5
Lead		2 $\frac{5}{8}$	2.	4.	2
Other Non-Ferrous Metals		-	-	-	-
Rags including Sacking	7.	3	98.	7.	11
Rubber	7.	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	19.	12.	9
Bones	4.	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	2.	7.	6
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>167.</u>	<u>-$\frac{7}{8}$</u>	<u>£869.</u>	<u>15.</u>	<u>6</u>

Shops. There are no shops in your district which employ labour, and it has not been necessary to take any action under the Shops Act 1934, relating to ventilation, temperature or the provision of Sanitary Convenience.

Smoke Abatement. No observations have been made during the last 12 months.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public situate in your district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. It has not been necessary for action to be taken to rid any premises of bed bugs during the past twelve months.

Evacuation. On 31st December 1943 there were in your District:-

64 Unaccompanied Children
 18 Mothers
 27 Accompanied Children
 1 Teacher
 18 Aged Adults

HOUSING

Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year

1.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	216
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	512
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	Nil
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	-
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	118

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	118
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners.....	40
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	78
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners.....	78
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	Nil

Inspections were made of 216 houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts involving 512 visits.

Milk Supply. Inspections of Farm Premises are carried out at irregular intervals. During the year a few complaints were received of dirty milk and souring. On investigations, the dirty milk complaints were found to be due to rushing either the work of sterilising of receptacles or lack of care in milking due entirely to the increased amount of work now required to be undertaken by the farming community coupled with the shortage of labour. A few cases of bacillus coli were reported and on investigation it was found to be due to the tankards and receptacles having been swilled out with contaminated well water. In these cases advice to discontinue the use of the well water was taken with the desired result.

Sampling is still undertaken by the County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Meat and other Foods. The Centralised Slaughterhouse at Shed Lane for the slaughter of Pigs under the Bacon Board Slaughter Scheme is still retained and regularly visited each week. The County Mental Hospital slaughterhouse is retained for Institutional Slaughter purposes though only occasionally used. In addition, Pigs slaughtered under the Ministry of Food Licence for individual consumption and bacon curing are inspected after slaughter.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

Meat Inspection	Beasts	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed.	24	-	1	1139	1164
Number Inspected.	24	-	1	1139	1164
All Diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	13	-	-	2	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	54.166	-	Nil	0.176	
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	4	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	75	75
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	Nil	-	Nil	6.936	

LIST OF SAMPLES OBTAINED IN THE CHESTER RURAL
DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER
1943

<u>Name of Sample</u>	<u>Number obtained</u>	<u>No. adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality</u>
Baking Powder	1	-
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	-
Boracic Ointment	1	-
Butter	1	-
Camphorated Oil	1	-
Castor Oil	1	-
Coffee	2	-
Cocoa	1	-
Fish Paste	2	-
Ginger Ground	1	-
Milk	13	1
Mustard	1	-
Salt	1	-
	<u>27</u>	<u>1</u>

CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

Adulterated or Non-Standard Samples

MILK. All the samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis and with one exception all were certified to be of genuine quality. The one exception concerned a sample of Milk which was found to be 10 per cent deficient in fat but as there was no suggestion that the milk had been wilfully tampered with the seller was cautioned.

The above report was kindly sent by Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, Cheshire County Council.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1943

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	23	19	-
Diphtheria	8	8	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	-
Meningitis	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	28	1	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	1	-
Measles	63	-	1
Whooping Cough	31	-	3
Poliomyelitis	1	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and mortality during the year 1943

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Total	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.& F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.& F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	4	-	1	6	1	1	-	-	2
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
55 - 65	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
65 & up	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
	4	6	1	2	13	3	1	-	-	4

A N N U A L R E P O R T
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1943
TARVIN RURAL DISTRICT

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area.....62,593 acres

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943)
according to Rate Books..... 4,039

Number of houses built in 1943..... Nil.

Rateable value at 1st April, 1943..... £73,972.

Product of 1d Rate at 1st April, 1943..... £343. 8. 9.

The area is almost entirely agricultural and residential, farming being the largest labour-employing occupation. There are no other large industries.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1943

Births:-

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	131	120	251
Illegitimate	12	3	15
	<u>143</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>266</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 18.56

Still Births:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>

Rate per 1,000 live and still births 29.2

Rate per 1,000 civilian population 0.55

Deaths:-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
88	74	162

Natural increase in population (excess of births over deaths) 104.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 11.3

A corrected Death Rate is not given because owing to movements of the population in war time, the use of a comparability factor does not give a representative figure.

Number of persons dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:-

From Puerperal Sepsis..... Nil.
From Puerperal Causes..... Nil.
From Other Maternal Causes..... Nil.

Maternal Mortality Rates (excluding Abortion) per 1,000 live and still births:-

From Puerperal Sepsis..... Nil.
From Other Puerperal or Maternal Causes..... Nil.

Total Maternity Mortality Rate....Nil.

Infant Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	5	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>

Infant Mortality Rate - i.e. deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 live births, 30.0

Deaths from Certain Selected Causes

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Whooping Cough.....	-	1
Influenza.....	1	4
Tuberculosis of respiratory system.....	2	1
Other forms of tuberculosis.....	-	2
Cancer of all sites.....	10	8
Intra-cranial vascular lesions.....	15	10
Heart disease.....	30	31
Bronchitis.....	3	4
Pneumonia.....	4	3
Other respiratory diseases.....	1	-
Other digestive disorders.....	3	-
Nephritis.....	3	1
Premature birth.....	2	2
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infant diseases.....	-	2
Suicide.....	2	1
Road traffic accidents.....	1	-
Other violent causes.....	4	-
All other Causes.....	7	4
	<u>88</u>	<u>74</u>
TOTAL - ALL CAUSES		

Diseases of the heart claim the largest number of deaths, viz: 61, of which 30 were males and 31 females. This figure is an increase of 9 on last year's total of 52 deaths.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS IN THE TARVIN RURAL DISTRICT

Medical Officer of Health.	W.J. Birchall, M.B., Ch.B.(Hons.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P. (London.), D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.	R.E.T. Chinnery, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., (b), (c), (d), (e).
Senior Sanitary Inspector.	T.H. Boden, A.R.S.I., (a).
Additional Sani- tary Inspector.	D.E. Tucker, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., (b), (e).
Junior Clerk.	Miss Hilary Nicholson.

(a)	Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors.
(b)	" " " " Meat "
(c)	" " " " Smoke "
(d)	" " " " Sanitary Science.
(e)	" " " " and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The services of the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary, are utilised for chemical and bacteriological examinations.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

Cases of infectious disease are removed to Chester City Isolation Hospital, Sealand Road, Chester, by the Hospital ambulances.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

There are District Nurses engaged in several of the larger villages for attendance on the sick.

The trained Health Visitors of the County Council also visit the homes in the District for the purposes of advice, inspection and assistance under the maternity, child-welfare and tuberculosis schemes.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics, including clinics solely for the area, are as follows:-

Malpas - Infant Welfare.
Hoole - Ante and Post-Natal Infant Welfare,
Orthopaedic and Dental.
Chester - Orthopaedic and Tuberculosis.

(e) Hospitals: Public and Voluntary.

The County General Hospital at Clatterbridge is available for residents in the area.

There are, in addition, smaller cottage voluntary hospitals in the neighbourhood, which receive patients from the area, viz: Tarporey and Whitchurch.

Large voluntary and special hospitals are also available in Chester and Liverpool.

Government Evacuation

There were no official schemes of evacuation into this district during the year 1943. The return of evacuees to their homes was accelerated and at 31st December, 1943, the number remaining in this district was 250 compared with 469 at the end of the previous year.

The Hostel at the Boeches, Malpas, continued to function and to provide invaluable accommodation under the guidance of the Matron, Miss Southern, for children unsuitable for billeting for various reasons, and for relief of householders in emergency etc.

During the year a total of 41 children were admitted to the Hostel, as compared with 96 during the previous year.

Details of the conditions dealt with are given below:-

Skin troubles	2	Ear troubles	2
Dirty habits	2	Relief of	
Bed wetting	6	householders	7
Bad behaviour	7	Miscellaneous	15

13 of the children admitted were immunised at the Hostel against Diphtheria; four had dental treatment, including extractions; four attended Hoole Eye Clinic and were fitted with glasses.

Three cases of chicken pox developed and one case of tonsillitis; all made satisfactory recoveries.

Stretton Hall Sick Bay, with 30 beds and 5 cots, continued to function during the year, under the efficient care of the Matron, Miss Marsden, providing in-patient treatment for children suffering from scabies and other ailments not suitable for treatment at the Hostel or in private billets.

During the year a total of 47 children were admitted to the Sick Bay, as compared with 37 the previous year; details of the conditions dealt with are as follows:-

Scabies	31
Impetigo	1
Tonsillitis	1
Chicken Pox	1
Psoriasis	1
For Cleansing	9
	<u>44</u>

During the period 1.11.43 to 9.11.43 the Sick Bay was in quarantine owing to a suspected case of scarlet fever.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(1) WATER.

There is a piped supply to the parishes of:- Aldersoy, Ashton, Beeston, Bickley, Broxton, Burwardsley, Carden, Churton, part of Clutton, Coddington, Farndon, Hampton, Malpas, Mouldsworth, Kelsall, Tarvin, Tattenhall, Tilstone Fearnall, Tiverton, part of Waverton, Willington.

The following fresh connections were made during the year:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Meters</u>	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Total No. of Connections</u>
Tattenhall	5	25	30
Newton-by-Tattonhall	1	-	1
Bickley	2	2	4
Kelsall	4	1	5
Hampton	3	-	3
Tarvin	1	1	2
Stapleford	1	-	1
Burwardsloy	3	-	3
Boeston	1	-	1
Tiverton	1	-	1
Broxton	1	-	1
	<u>23</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>52</u>

Of this total 29 were purely domestic supplies, while the remaining 23 were metered owing to water being required for trade purposes.

Several samples were taken from piped supplies and from wells both for bacteriological and chemical examination. The piped supplies were uniformly good, but many of the wells showed evidence of pollution.

The whole of the District, not already so provided, is in urgent need of an adequate and wholesome water supply, in particular the parishes of Bruen Stapleford, Caldecott, Clotton Hoofield, Crowe-by-Farndon, Cuddington, Duddon, Foulk Stapleford, Golborne David, Handley, Huxley, Newton-by-Tattenhall, Shocklach Church, Shocklach Oviatt, Threapwood, Tilston, Tushingham and part of Waverton.

(2) DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

No further sewerage schemes can be carried out until the cessation of hostilities. Schemes were in hand at the outbreak of war for the parishes of Ashton, Churton, Farndon, Kelsall, Mouldsworth, Tarvin and Waverton, and it is hoped that these will be proceeded with as soon as conditions permit, as modern drainage facilities are urgently required in these parishes.

(3) RIVERS AND STREAMS

Instances of pollution of streams or watercourses continue to be discovered by, or brought to the notice of, the Health Department. Improvement is being effected by careful attention to the drainage arrangements of all new premises erected, and to all schemes of re-drainage or reconditioning.

A number of individual cases of pollution by drainage were dealt with satisfactorily, by the provision of adequate systems of drainage and sewage disposal.

(4) (1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Pail closets and privy middens are converted to water closets where such action is practicable.

The approximate figures at the end of the year were as follows:-

Privy-middens	761
Pail closets	1849
Water Closets	<u>1429</u>
	<u>4039</u>

(2) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse & Salvage Collection.

These services continue to be conducted under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The work of collection and disposal of house refuse and salvage materials is carried out under a combined scheme, by the Council's own motor vehicles (two) and workmen.

A collection of house refuse has been maintained in the parishes of Ashton, Farndon, Handley, Kelsall, Malpas, Mouldsworth, Tattenhall and Tarvin, while a regular fortnightly collection of salvage materials was maintained throughout the District during the year.

The vehicles operate from a depot rented by the Council at Tattenhall, centrally and conveniently situated in the District. The depot is also used as the collecting and sorting point for salvage materials.

No difficulty has yet been experienced in obtaining suitable sites for the disposal of house refuse by controlled tipping, at convenient points adjacent to the parishes served. In two instances only is the Council required to pay a small rental for tipping sites.

Details of Income and Expenditure on these services are as follows:-

Total cost of operating Refuse & Salvage	
Collection Services, year ended 31.3.44	£2099.15. 4
Income from sales of Salvage Materials collected	
(Total weight 152 tons, 16 cwts. 108 lbs)	<u>777. 9. 0</u>
Net Cost	<u>£1322. 6. 4</u>

This expenditure is equivalent to a rate of 3.85 pence.

It is hoped that when the Council are relieved of their responsibility to collect salvage materials throughout the District it will be possible to give a regular collection of house refuse to most parts of the Councils area.

(3) SHOPS.

No action under the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation, temperature, and sanitary accommodation of shops, has been found necessary during the year.

(4) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Action was necessary in one instance, and was successful in obtaining temporary improvement pending the installation of additional plant necessary to remove the cause of complaint.

(5) SWIMMING BATHS & POOLS.

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in the area.

(6) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Action was found necessary in the case of one verminous Council house. The occupants were removed for cleansing of their persons and clothing and during their absence the house and contents were dealt with. It is feared, however, that owing to the type of person involved, in this instance, the trouble is likely to recur.

(5) SCHOOLS.

There is a piped water supply to schools at Ashton, Beeston, Farndon, Kelsall, Tarvin, Tattenhall and Tilstone Fearnall.

Clutton, Duddon, Hargrave, Huxley, Tilston and Shocklach are still without proper water supply.

Privies have been converted to water-closets at the Tattenhall Church of England Schools; pail closets are still in use at Tattenhall Council School in spite of the presence of water supplies and sewerage.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year

1.
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)..... 145
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 145
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations..... 93
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 93
 - (3) Numbers of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 58
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive to those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation..... 87
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers..... 38
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.
 - (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs..... 1
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notices..... 1
 - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) By Owners0
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....0

The following are the principal matters dealt with by your Sanitary Inspectors during routine and informal action during the year:-

Orders served to	provide, reconstruct, repair or cleanse drains.	33
"	" repair or provide sinks and waste pipes.	10
"	" provide or repair yard paving.	9
"	" repair roofs and remedy dampness.	9
"	" repair water closets and flushing cisterns.	2
"	" provide proper sinks and waste pipes.	9
"	" repair or provide eaves and fall pipes.	9
"	" provide, repair or cleanse cesspools, septic tanks etc.	14
"	" repair external walls.	5
"	" repair, provide wash houses, washing boilers etc.	12
"	" repair house windows and doors.	4
"	" renew or repair fire-ranges.	4
"	" repair internal walls or ceilings.	5
"	" repair chimney stacks.	7
"	" renew sanitary pans.	2
"	" remove offensive accumulations.	10
"	" repair defective house floors.	12
"	" remedy damp walls.	10
"	" repair staircases, provide handrails etc.	9
"	" provide adequate light and ventilation to food stores.	11
"	" provide or repair food stores.	3
"	" provide dustbins in lieu of ashpits.	4
"	" reconstruct ashpits and privies.	8
"	" provide and fix chimney pots.	2
"	" provide additional closet accommodation.	1
"	" provide adequate light and ventilation.	2
"	" repair defective outbuildings.	7
"	" renew dustbins.	11
"	" cleanse and/or redecorate rooms.	15
"	" cleanse foul dykes.	17
"	" abate smoke nuisances.	1
"	re animals or poultry improperly kept.	1
"	" verminous premises.	7
"	to connect to public water supply.	1
"	miscellaneous.	2
"	to cleanse wells, repair pumps etc.	5
Investigation of cases of infectious disease.		30

Owing to wartime restrictions on labour and materials the amount of housing repair work carried out in the District during the year under review did not reach its usual proportions. The work which was carried out of this nature was, however, essential in character and will check the deterioration of house property, which is becoming noticeable in many areas owing to continued suspension of needed repairs.

The number of houses which it is considered cannot be brought to proper standards of fitness at reasonable expense is growing larger, owing to the suspension of action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

During the year a detailed survey of this class of property was completed, which revealed that there are approximately 150 houses of this type in the District awaiting attention; in 58 instances it was considered that there is no practical alternative to demolition, while it is probable that in many other cases the owners will prefer demolition to expensive reconditioning and reconstruction.

In all instances where reconditioning etc. may be carried out with the aid of grants under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, full details of the financial assistance available are given to the owners with advice towards putting forward a scheme likely to be accepted by the County Council, the administering authority under these Acts.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk (Special Designations) Orders

At the end of the year the following numbers of producers were on the registers:-

Producers of Accredited Milk.....	438
Producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk.....	13
Producers of Non-designated Milk.....	323
Holders of Pasteurisers' Licences.....	2
Number of Milk Retailers.....	85

A large number of farms where milk is produced fall a long way short of modern standards, and, the inducement of the Accredited Milk scheme having apparently failed, the more drastic steps of action under the Milk and Dairies Orders will have to be taken to effect necessary improvements in premises, drainage, water supply etc.

Meat Inspection

Government control of slaughtering was continued throughout the year, the Ministry of Food Central Slaughterhouse, at Newton Lodge, Newton-by-Tattenhall, continuing in operation.

Slaughterhouse Licences were renewed in two instances, in respect of premises where casualties are dealt with. In only one of these premises, however, are regular slaughterings carried out; at the other licensed premises only an occasional animal is slaughtered.

A licence in respect of Knacker's Yard premises was renewed. These premises continue to be operated without complaint.

From the point of view of efficient meat inspection the centralisation of slaughtering enables the Council's Inspectors to carry out 100% inspection without difficulty, whereas formerly when slaughtering was carried out in a large number of private slaughter-houses scattered throughout the District, it was often found impossible.

Details of animals slaughtered for human consumption in the Council's area during the year, with particulars of each class of animal found unfit for food, are given below in the form suggested by the Ministry of Health.

Year 1943	Beasts	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Number Killed	604	1233	117	5721	173	7848
Number Inspected	604	1233	117	5721	173	7848
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis:-</u> <u>WHOLE CARCASSES</u>	13	88	20	6	1	128
CARCASSES OF WHICH SOME PART OR OFFAL WAS CONDEMNED	140	241	13	45	12	451
Percentage affected	25.33	26.68	28.21	0.89	7.52	7.38
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u> <u>WHOLE CARCASSES</u>	25	264	1	0	15	305
CARCASSES OF WHICH SOME PART OR OFFAL WAS CONDEMNED	122	565	0	0	19	706
Percentages affected	24.32	66.50	0.86	0	19.65	12.88

The total weight of meat considered by your Inspectors to be unfit for human consumption was:- 104 tons 15 cwts. 47 lbs.

These figures include 158 cows and heifers slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, and the following animals slaughtered as 'casualties' :- 552 cows, 140 beasts, 164 pigs, 70 calves and 35 sheep.

In addition the following weight of canned meat and other foods at local shops and depots was found to be unfit for human consumption: 12 cwts. 8 lbs.

The large number of 'casualty' animals included in the above table were mostly dealt with at a slaughterhouse where only animals of this type are slaughtered. These are animals which are certified as needing immediate slaughter owing to illness or injury. As a result the numbers and percentages of condemnations, particularly of beasts and cows affected with conditions other than tuberculosis, are very much higher than would otherwise be expected.

Previous to May, 1943, these carcasses were taken, immediately after slaughter, to Manchester for final inspection and allocation, but since that date all such carcasses are now taken, after inspection by your Inspectors to the Ministry of Food central premises at Newton-by-Tattenhall for allocation if found fit for food. They must now, therefore, be included in any report upon meat inspection carried out in your district, with the consequent effect upon percentages of condemnations mentioned above.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The following report of work under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act has been supplied by Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council.

LIST OF SAMPLES TAKEN IN THE TARVIN RURAL DISTRICT

DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1943

<u>Name of Sample</u>	<u>Number Obtained</u>	<u>Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality</u>
Butter	2	-
Cascara Tablets	1	-
Cheese	2	-
Cooking Fat	1	-
Fish Paste	1	-
Glauber Salts	1	-
Gravy Salt	1	-
Horseradish Cream	1	-
Jam	1	-
Lard	1	-
Margarine	1	-
Meat Paste	1	-
Milk	27	10
	<u>41</u>	<u>10</u>

Particulars concerning the ten samples of milk reported as not up to Standard

Analysis	Action Taken	Remarks
Contained 5% of extraneous water.	Seller Cautioned.	
6.4% deficient in Non-fatty solids)	All these samples	Samples from
3.5% " " " " ")	were abnormal and	each of four
1.7% " " " " ")	therefore no action	churns from one
2.3% " " " " ")	was taken.	farmer.
15% deficient in Fat.	Seller Cautioned.	
13.7% of extraneous water.	Fined £5 & £1.1s.0d. costs.	
10.6% deficient in Fat & 2.7% deficient in Non-fatty solids.		This was an appeal to cow re preceeding sample.
8.4% deficient in Non-fatty solids)	Both these samples	Sample from each
5.8% " " " " ")	were abnormal, there- fore no action was taken.	of two churns from one farmer.

It is interesting to note that all the milks certified against were taken in connection with supplies sent by farmers to one or other of the dairy companies and that no milk on retail sale within the Rural District was certified against.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1943

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Typhoid Fever	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	38	26	-
Diphtheria	6	4	-
Meningitis	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Erysipelas	7	-	-
Measles	169	-	-
Whooping Cough	31	-	1
Pneumonia	55	-	7
TOTAL	307	30	8

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1943

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
15 - 25	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
25 - 35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Totals	1	2	2	1	1	-	1	2

